



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

As the House Appropriations Committee drafts legislation for Fiscal Year 2022, we respectfully request that you **retain all longstanding pro-life provisions as bill text**. It is important that the language and integrity of these provisions, which have been signed into law annually on a broad bipartisan basis for decades, are carried forward in this year's spending bills.

Among these crucial amendments, we urge you to keep the Hyde Amendment, which protects funding made available through the Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS) Appropriations bill from funding elective abortion. The Hyde Amendment—which has been renewed annually on a bipartisan basis since 1976—reflects the clear view of the majority of Americans who do not want their tax dollars used to fund abortion.

A [Marist poll](#) released January 2021 found that nearly 60% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. Many Americans in both political parties believe that abortion is the direct and intentional killing of a human being. That said current law, as you know, includes exceptions for rape, incest, and to save the life of the mother. Forcing Americans to fund abortion is seriously contrary to American public opinion and a violation of the promises of unity and justice for all that President Biden articulated in the early days of his presidency.

Hyde protections refer both to the language within the LHHS Appropriations bill and to other similar policies that have been enacted on a bipartisan basis in annual appropriations bills. These include the following:

- **The Smith (NJ) Amendment:** protects taxpayer dollars from paying for abortions for federal employees. (*Financial Services & General Government Appropriations*)
- **The Dornan Amendment:** prevents federal and local funds from being used to pay for abortions in the District of Columbia. (*Financial Services & General Government Appropriations*)
- **Abortion Funding for Prisoners:** protects taxpayer dollars from being used to pay for abortions for federal prisoners. (*Commerce, Justice, & Science Appropriations*)
- **The Helms Amendment:** protects federal taxpayer dollars from funding abortions overseas. (*State & Foreign Operations Appropriations*)

We also urge you to retain the longstanding protections for the conscience rights of health care providers especially and including, the **Weldon Amendment** which protects the decisions of physicians,

nurses, clinics, hospitals, medical centers, and health insurance providers who choose not to participate in elective abortion based on their deeply held moral or religious convictions.

We know you agree that no one should be forced to *have* an abortion. Likewise, no one should be forced to *participate in* abortion.

Finally, the recent [Marist poll](#) also found that 77% of Americans strongly oppose using taxpayer dollars to pay for abortion overseas, including 64% of Americans who identify as “pro-choice.” Protecting foreign aid from paying for abortion respects the rights of prolife nations, ensures that foreign aid does not hurt or offend the individuals overseas it is intended to help, and provides more funding for life-saving health care such as essential obstetric care, nutritional aid and other truly humanitarian assistance to persons in need.

Abortion is not health care, and along with the Helms Amendment discussed above, we urge you to retain similar key legislative protections in our foreign policy which include:

- **The Siljander Amendment:** Prevents federal taxpayer dollars from being used to lobby for or against abortion. (*State & Foreign Operations Appropriations*)
- **The Kemp-Kasten Amendment:** allows the President to discontinue funding to organizations that support or participate in the management of a coercive abortion program. This amendment has been used to restrict funding to the United Nations Population Fund, which supports and participates in the management of China’s birth limitation policies. (*State & Foreign Operations Appropriations*)

We thank you for your consideration.


Sincerely,



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



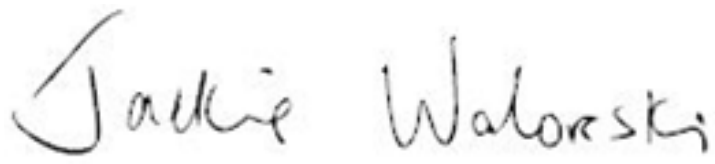
Liz Cheney
Member of Congress



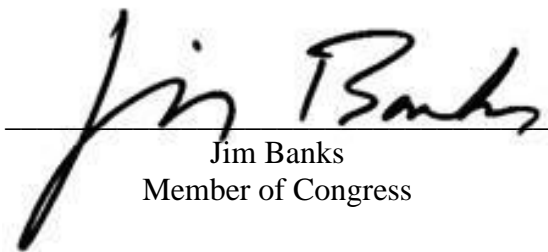
Vicky Hartzler
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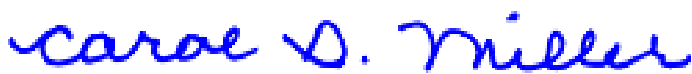
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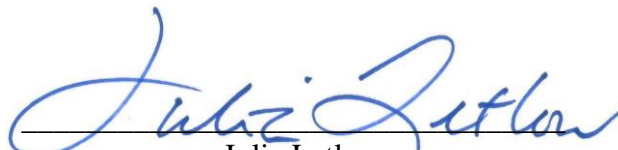
Carol D. Miller
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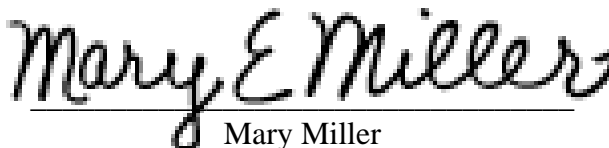
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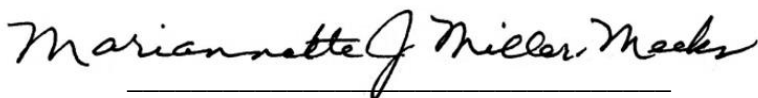
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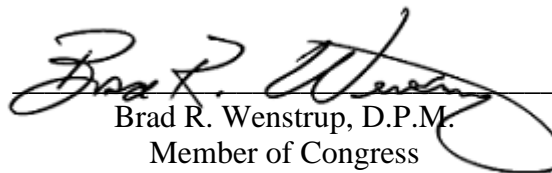
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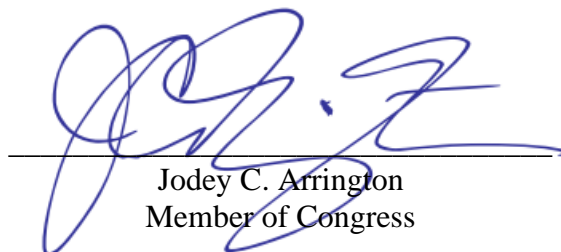
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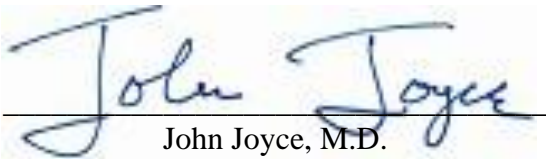
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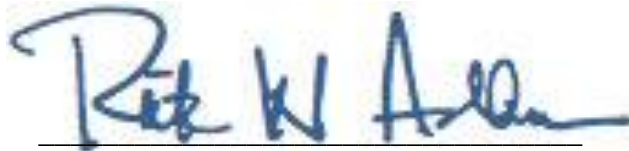
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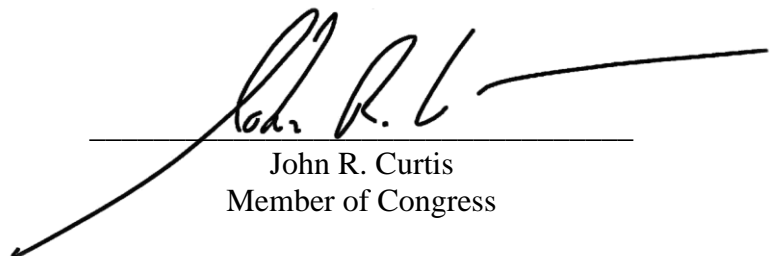
Richard Hudson
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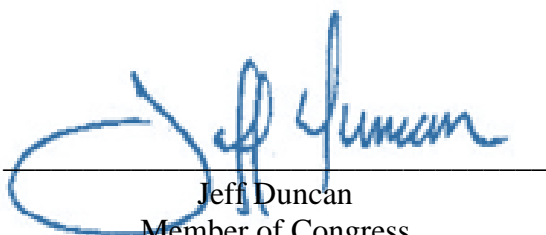
Ken Buck
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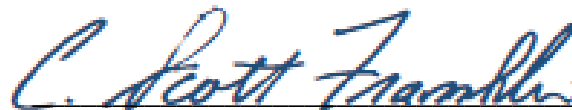
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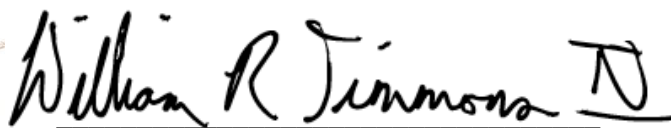
Jeff Duncan
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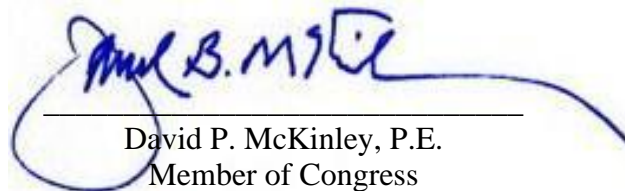
Burgess Owens
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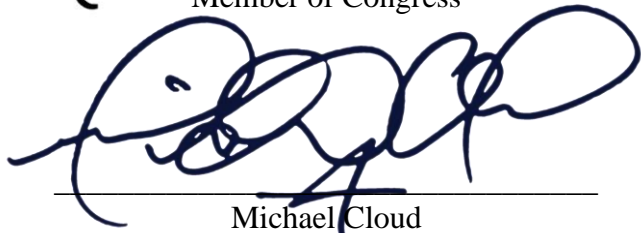
William R. Timmons, IV
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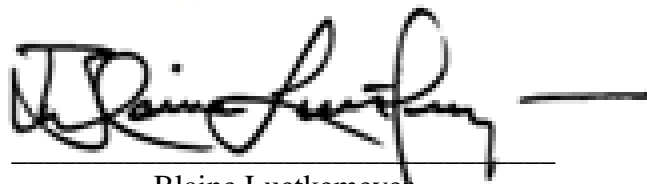
Andrew S. Clyde
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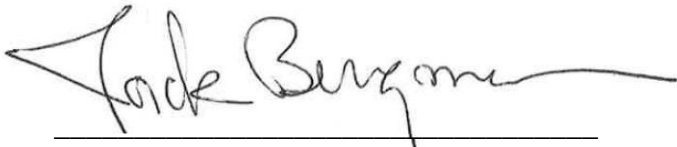
Brian Babin, D.D.S.
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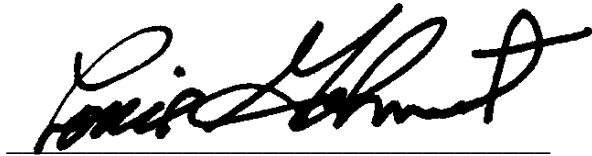
Tom Emmer
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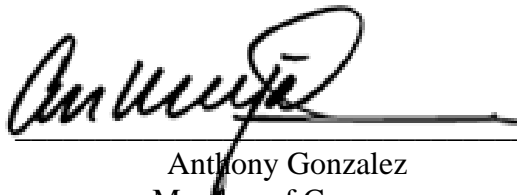
Randy Feenstra
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Mike Gallagher
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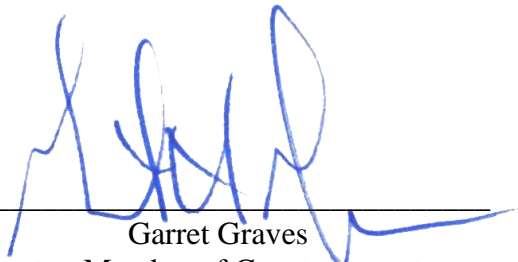
Louie Gohmert
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Anthony Gonzalez
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Garret Graves
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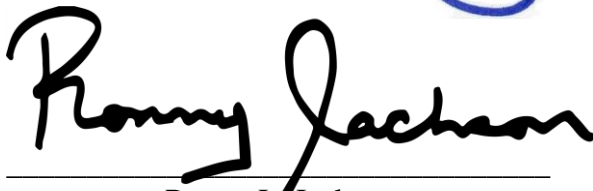
Jody Hice
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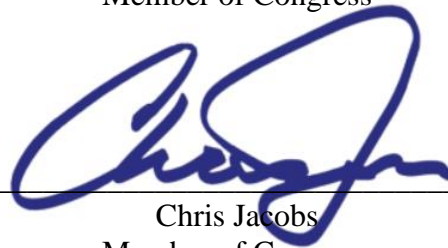
Bill Huizenga
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Darrell Issa
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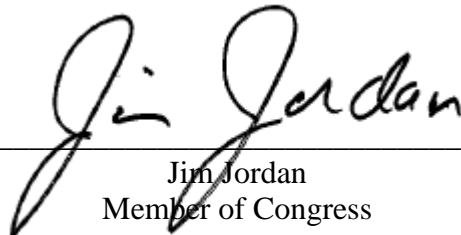
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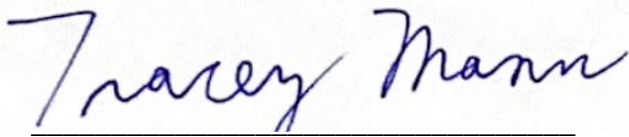
Doug LaMalfa
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Jake LaTurner
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Barry Loudermilk
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Tracey Mann
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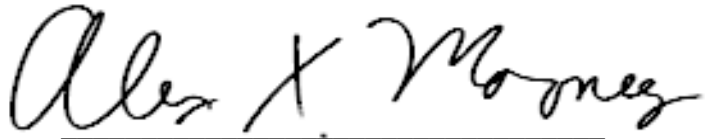


Brian Mast
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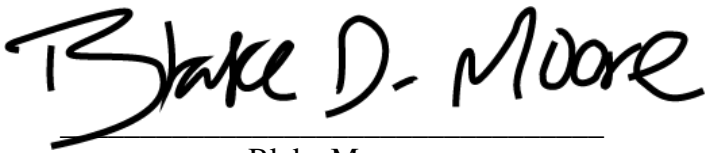


Peter Meijer
Member of Congress

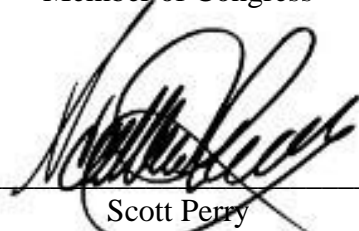
M.C.



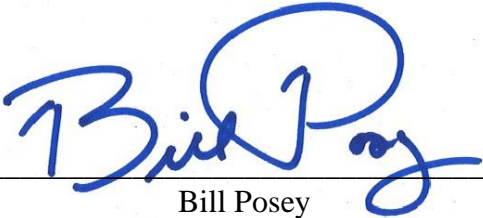
Alex X. Mooney
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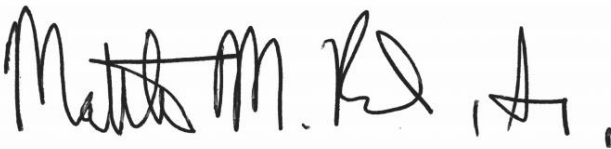
Scott Perry
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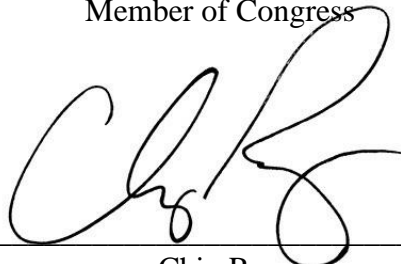
Bill Posey
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Mike D. Rogers
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Matt Rosendale
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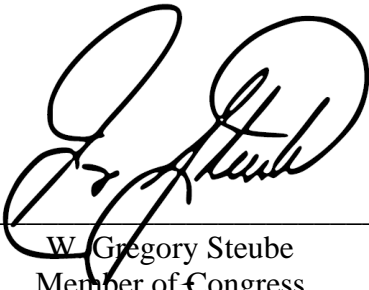
Chip Roy
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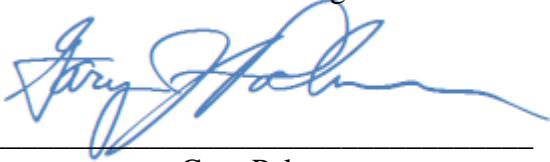
Austin Scott
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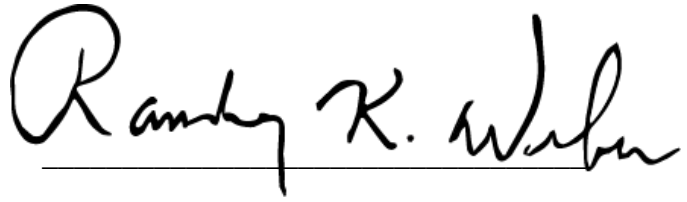
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W. Gregory Steube
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Gary Palmer
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